A0400-1

The Aluminum Situation

Department of Economics and Statistics

June 1984

BEST AVAILABLE COPY

Total Net Shipments Up 24.0 Percent

Net shipments for the first four months of 1984, at an estimated 5,397 million pounds, were 24 percent higher than 4,351 million pounds for 1983's first four months.

Domestic shipments of 5,073 million pounds were 29.5% higher than 3,917 million pounds shipped in 1983's first four months.

Imports were up a strong 54.4% but exports declined 25.5%.

Thru April 1984

	4 mos. 1984	4 mos. 1983	% Change
Mill Products	4,148	3,504	+18.4
Ingot	1,249	847	+47.5
Total	5,397	4,351	+24.0
Less Exports	(324)	(434)	-25.3
Domestic Total	5,073	3,917	+29.5

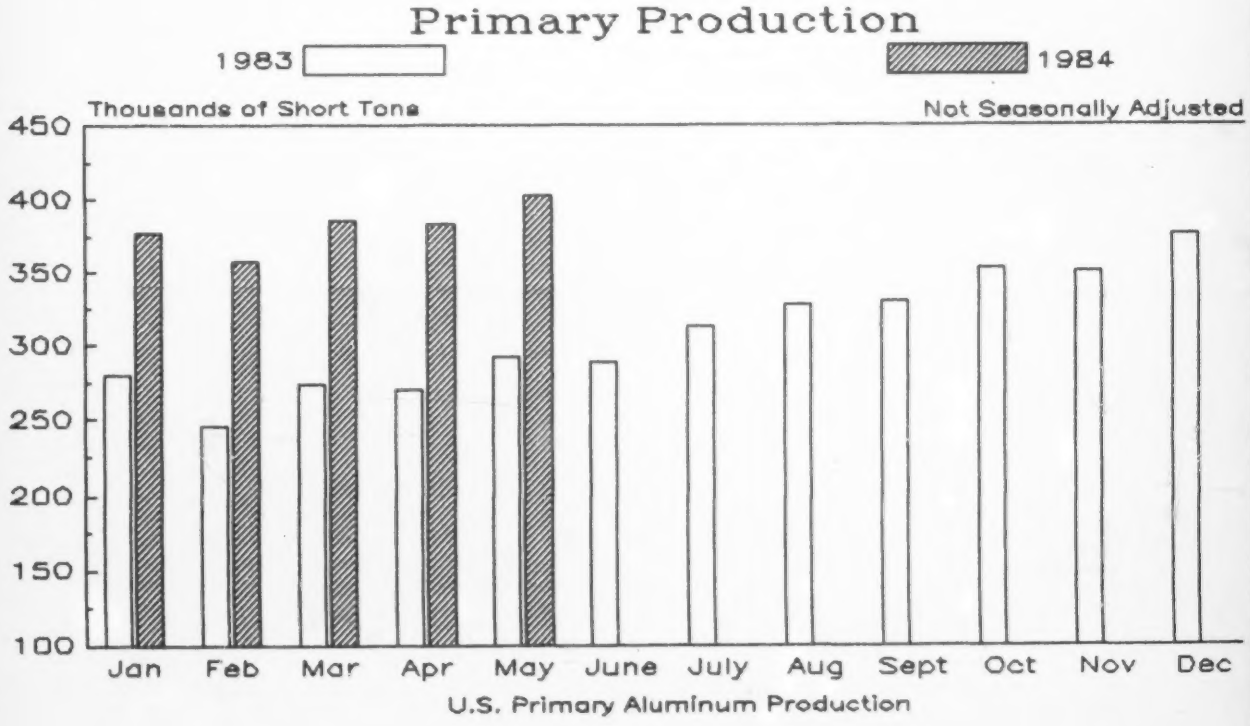
Millions of Pounds
Source: Latest two months estimated by the Aluminum Association. Previous data-Bureau of the Census.

Production Rate Up 40.1 Percent

U.S. primary aluminum production averaged 12,983 short tons daily during May 1984 compared with an average 9,411 tons a day in May 1983.

The annual rate of production in May 1984 was 4,751,843 tons, compared to 3,435,133 tons in May 1983. The revised April 1984 production rate was 4,671,941 tons.

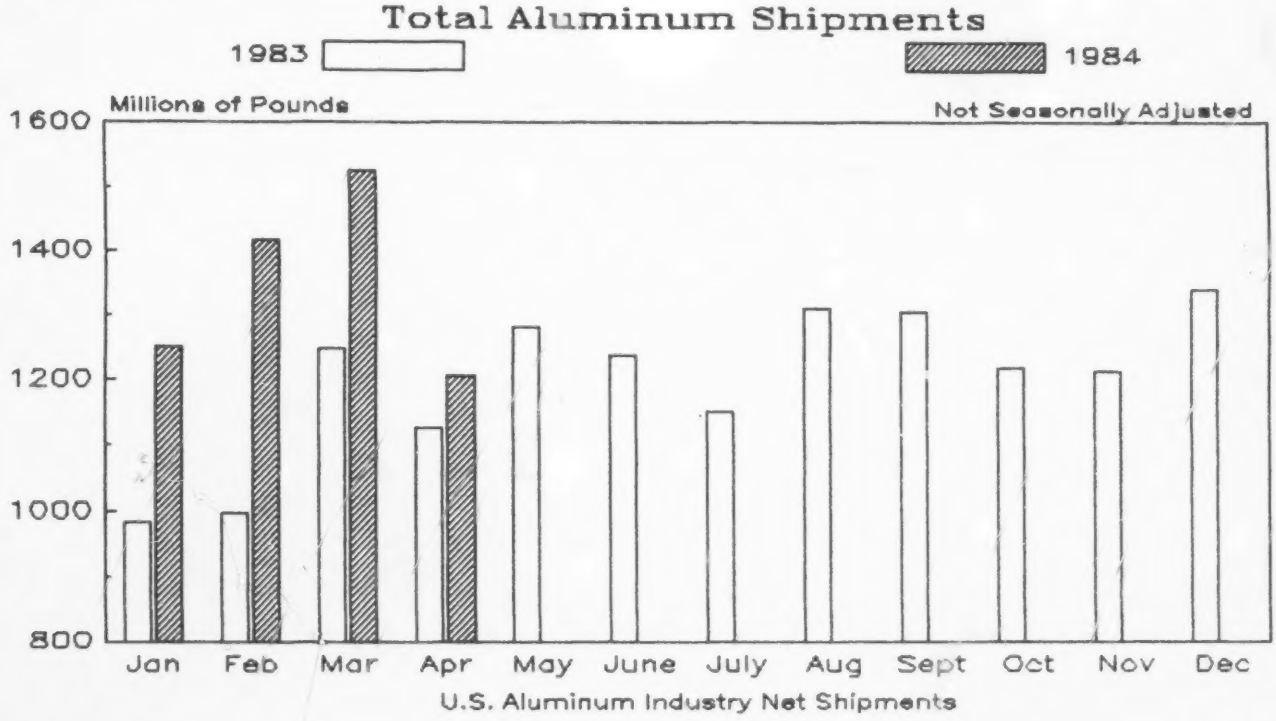
Actual production in May 1984 was 402,479 tons. April 1984 was revised to 382,946 tons.



Aluminum Association total industry estimates are based on information reported by members, which is aggregated by the Association and then expanded to total industry data utilizing an expansion ratio that attempts to reflect the relationship of reporters to the total industry. While the Association believes that its statistical procedures and methods are reliable, it does not warrant the accuracy or completeness of the data. All data contained herein are subject to revision.

April 1984 Shipments Up 72.2 Percent Over Year Ago

April 1984 net shipments at an estimated 1,205 million pounds were 7.2% higher than April 1983 shipments of 1,124 million pounds. Domestic shipments were up 17.8% vs. April 1983.



Net Shipments
(Millions of Pounds)

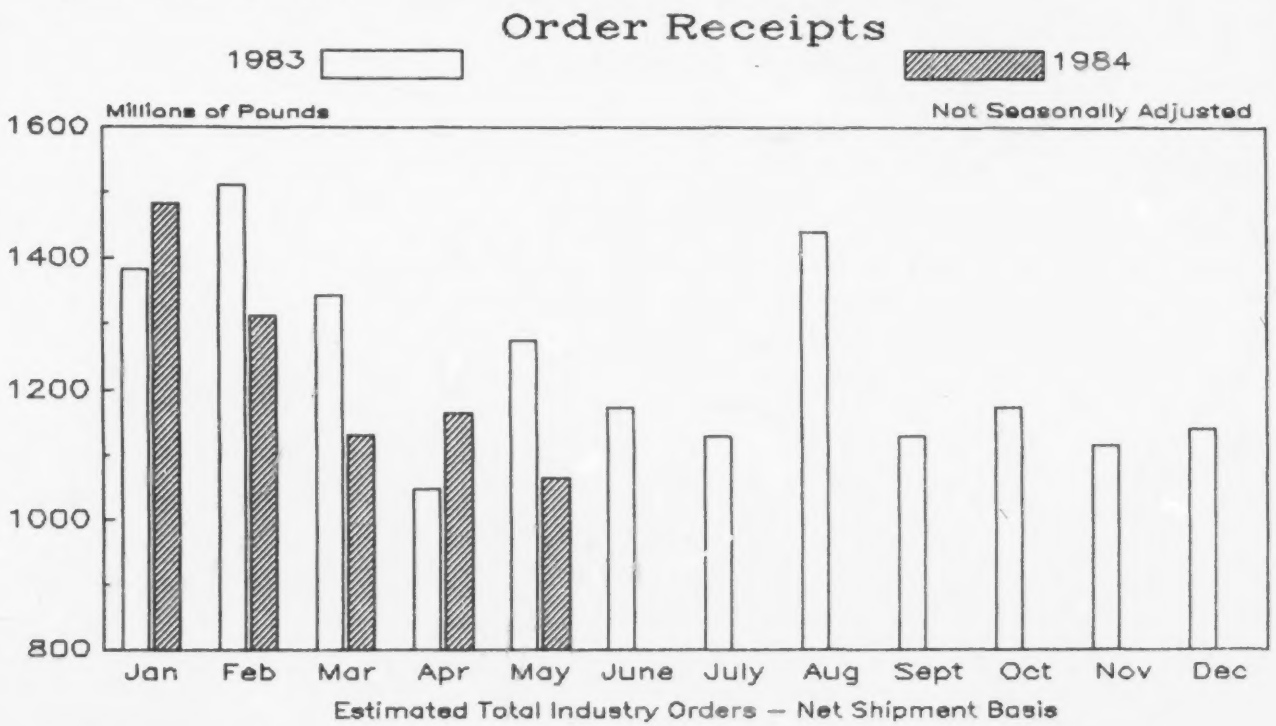
	1984 Apr.	1983 Apr.	1984 4 mos.	1983 4 mos.	% Change 1984 vs. 1983
Sheet	510.0	488.3	2,203.7	1,884.3	+17.0
Plate	19.0	15.0	79.7	71.3	+11.8
Foil	70.0	72.2	283.6	269.8	+ 5.1
Rod, Bar & Wire	26.0	21.1	*100.9	85.9	+17.5
Electrical Conductor	62.0	59.0	*234.1	228.8	+ 2.3
Extruded Products	215.0	188.7	844.7	713.0	+18.5
Welded Tube	7.0	4.0	26.6	15.5	+71.6
Powder & Paste	9.0	7.2	35.6	28.4	+25.4
Forgings & Impacts	12.0	9.5	47.2	38.1	+23.9
Net Imports of Mill Products (Total) (a)	65.0	40.5	292.0	169.3	+72.5
Total Mill Products	995.0	905.5	4,148.1	3,504.4	+18.4
Ingot	210.0	218.6	1,249.4	846.7	+47.6
TOTAL INDUSTRY SHIPMENTS	1,205.0	1,124.1	5,397.5	4,351.1	+24.0
Exports	(50.8)	(143.9)	(323.8)	(434.4)	-25.5
TOTAL DOMESTIC SHIPMENTS	1,154.32	980.2	5,073.7	3,916.7	+29.5

*Corrected for rounding error.

*Latest two months estimated by the Aluminum Association.
Previous data-Bureau of the Census and Department of Commerce.
(a) Not included in product data above.
(b) Sufficient data not available for reliable estimate. Implicit in this item is a 10 to 25% variation.
r-revised

May 1984 Order Receipts Down 16.6 Percent vs. Year Ago

Estimated net new order receipts for May 1984 of 1,063 million pounds were 16.5% lower than the 1,273 million pounds for May 1983. Domestic orders were 13.7% lower. The five-month total orders for domestic mill products were only 1.2% lower than the comparable 1983 period.



Order Receipts
(Millions of Pounds)

	1984* May	1983 May	1984 5 months	1983 5 months	% Change 1984 v. 1983
Can Stock(a)	256.3	277.7	1,426.1	1,292.9	+10.3
Sheet & Plate, Other	223.9	341.5	1,556.3	1,856.6	-16.2
Foil	74.5	70.8	339.1	364.3	- 6.9
Rod, Bar & Wire	22.2	20.8	125.0	116.0	+ 7.8
Electrical Conductor	65.1	54.9	338.0	282.1	+19.8
Extruded Products	182.9	207.7	961.9	930.7	+ 3.4
Powder & Paste	7.4	10.2	52.6	44.9	+17.1
Forgings & Impacts	11.6	9.9	57.3	29.4	+94.9
Domestic Mill Products	843.9	993.5	4,856.3	4,916.9	- 1.2
Ingot (Total)	153.5	161.8	945.8	1,218.0	-22.3
TOTAL DOMESTIC	997.4	1,155.3	5,802.1	6,134.9	- 5.4
Exports	65.1	117.5	347.4	419.6	-17.2
TOTAL ALL PRODUCTS	1,062.5	1,272.8	6,149.5	6,554.5	- 6.2

Source: The Association estimates total industry orders, based on weekly reports by members of new orders (less cancellations) received. The Association expands these data to total industry utilizing an expansion ratio that attempts to reflect the relationship of reporters to the total industry. Weekly data are available upon request.
(a) Import orders included in Sheet and Plate, Other.
*Latest month.
r-revised.

Inventories Increased in April 1984 By 119 Million Pounds

Producer inventories increased an estimated 119 million pounds in April 1984 from March 1984. Integrated producers' stocks went up 114 million pounds and non-integrateds' stocks increased 5 million pounds.

Month-End Aluminum Inventories
By Type of Producer
Figures in Millions of Pounds

Month	Total*	Integrated	Smelters	Non-Integrated
Dec 80	5,076	4,018	261	797
Dec 81	6,607	5,542	266	798
Dec 82	6,199	5,224	216	759
Apr 83	5,744	4,774	189	781
May 83	5,579	4,596	190	793
Jun 83	5,439	4,431	199	809
Jul 83	5,472	4,453	193	826
Aug 83	5,375	4,345	192	838
Sep 83	5,258	4,209	202	848
Oct 83	5,296	4,260	198	838
Nov 83	5,208	4,140	193	874
Dec 83	5,009	3,979	163	868
Jan 84	5,176r	4,081	206r	889r
Feb 84	5,237r	4,126r	213r	898r
Mar 84	5,269r	4,156r	213r	900r
Apr 84	5,388	4,270	213	905

*Latest two months estimated by Aluminum Association. Previous data-Bureau of the Census. Inventories include ingot, mill products and scrap.
Early estimates are available approximately the 5th working day each month; however, there is a charge for this special service. Contact the Aluminum Association Department of Economics and Statistics for details.

Imports and Exports
(Millions of Pounds)

		1984 Apr.	1983 Apr.	1984* 4 mos.	1983 4 mos.	% Change 1984 v. 1983
Imports	Mill Products	83.5	47.0	351.5	194.1	+81.16
	Ingot	137.4	147.2	695.7	484.2	+43.68
	Total	220.9	194.2	1,047.3	678.3	+54.40
	Scrap (+ dross)	21.8	12.6	91.1	46.6	+95.65
	Grand Total	242.8	206.7	1,138.3	724.8	+57.05
Exports	Mill Products	35.6	41.4	179.6	162.0	+10.86
	Ingot	15.3	102.5	144.2	272.3	-47.05
	Total	50.8	143.9	323.8	434.3	-25.45
	Scrap	36.6	40.7	151.9	136.7	+11.17
	Grand Total	87.5	184.5	475.7	571.0	-16.69
Net Imports		155.3	22.2	662.6	153.8	

Source: Department of Commerce, Industry Trade Administration and Bureau of the Census. Excludes backed foil.